



Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs (AFOP)
Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker Children Essay Contest 2010

Essay Contest Guidelines

Theme of Essay: Harvesting the dreams of my future

Some ideas to get you started:

- What are your dreams for the future?
- How have your experiences of working in the fields or migrating affected your dreams for the future?
- Who has been inspiration in your life and why?
- What are the challenges you face in reaching your dreams?
- What will you need to do in order to achieve your dreams?

Rules:

1. Complete Essay Application (with contact information)
2. Ages 14-18: Between 500-700 words (2-3 typed pages, double-spaced)
3. Ages 10-13: Between 250-400 words (1-1 ½ typed pages, double-spaced)
4. Must include a picture of yourself, preferably working in the field
5. Open to children of migrant or seasonal farmworkers
6. Accepted in English or Spanish (English strongly encouraged)
7. Must be typed or printed (no cursive, illegible essays will be disqualified)
8. Essay must be solely the work of the student
- 9. Deadline: August 1, 2010**

Prizes for each age range:

First place -- \$300

Second place -- \$200

Third place -- \$100

Submit essays and materials to:

Norma Flores Lopez

Children in the Fields Project Director

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs

1726 M St. NW, Suite 602

Washington, DC 20036

Winning essays will be printed in AFOP's *Washington Newslines*.

The best essays will be compiled in a booklet to be presented to key members of Congress to share a piece of the lives of migrant and seasonal farmworker youth.

Essays will be judged by the Child Labor Coalition (CLC) steering committee. The CLC is a coalition of organizations that are concerned about the well-being of children around the world. The steering committee of the CLC consists of professional leaders from the organizations that are members of the CLC.

Essays will be judged on both style and content. Judges will look for writing that is clear, articulate and logically organized. (See Scoring Rubric)

All entries become the property of the Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs and will not be returned.

Winners will be notified via telephone or by mail by August 15, 2010. First place winners will be invited to present their essay at the AFOP Conference, December 6-8, 2010, in New Orleans, LA.

Names of winners and winning entries will be published in AFOP's *Washington Newsline*. All contact information of participants will be kept confidential.

Essay Application (Solicitud de Ensayo)

Name (Nombre Completo): _____

Age (Edad): _____ Date of Birth (Fecha de Nacimiento): _____

I am the child of a migrant or seasonal farmworker (Soy hijo/hija de un trabajador agrícola migrante o temporal): Yes/Sí () No ()

Gender (Sexo): Male/Masculino () Female/Feminina ()

How did you hear about the essay contest? (¿Cómo se enteró del concurso de ensayo?):

Please indicate the phone number and address where you can be reached as of August 15, 2010 (Por favor, indique el número de teléfono y la dirección donde se puede contactarle después del 15 de agosto de 2010):

Phone number (Teléfono) 1: () _____

Phone number (Teléfono) 2: () _____

Address (Dirección) 1: _____

Address (Dirección) 2: _____

Email: _____

Alternate Contact Person: (Name/Nombre) _____

Phone (Teléfono): _____

Scoring Rubric:

1 = Weak 2 = Moderately Weak 3 = Average 4 = Moderately Strong 5 = Strong

1. The student introduces the topic or experience in a way that draws in the audience.

1 2 3 4 5

2. The student clearly states the topic or experience.

1 2 3 4 5

3. The student focuses on his/her personal thoughts and feelings about the topic or experience.

1 2 3 4 5

4. The student uses memorable sensory description in relaying specific details.

1 2 3 4 5

5. The student presents events in chronological order or in another order that the audience can follow.

1 2 3 4 5

6. The student expresses the personal meaning or value of the topic or event.

1 2 3 4 5

7. The student concludes in a way that reiterates his/her attitude toward the topic or experience.

1 2 3 4 5

8. The spelling, punctuation, and grammar on the essay are accurate.

1 2 3 4 5

9. The essay is neatly typed or handwritten.

1 2 3 4 5

Additional Comments: _____

Total Points: _____

Adapted from Rubric 41 by Holt, Rinehart and Winston.